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**Selenium-Containing Heterocycles from Isoselenocyanates:
Use of Hydrazine for the Synthesis of 1,3,4-Selenadiazine
Derivatives**

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Keywords: Isoselenocyanates, Selenadiazines, Cyclization reactions, Hydrazine, X-Ray crystallography

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Aryl isoselenocyanates **1** react with different phenacyl halides **2** in the presence of hydrazine hydrate in a one-pot reaction to give selenadiazines **3a-f** in good to excellent yields.

1. Introduction. – Selenium-containing heterocycles are of remarkable interest because of their antitumor, antibacterial and other notable biological and pharmaceutical activities [1]. Among our efforts devoted to the chemistry of selenium in organic synthesis, we were also interested in the preparation of selenadiazines. Several articles deal with the synthesis of 1,3,4- [2–4], 1,3,5- [5][6], and 1,2,6-selenadiazines [7] but, to the best of our knowledge, no synthesis has been described starting from isoselenocyanates. Some selenadiazines are of biological and physical interest and are found to be cardiogenic [8] or spasmolytic agents [9], but they are also of importance as agrochemicals, dyes and organic electric conductors [10].

In numerous articles, the synthesis of 1,3,4-selenadiazine derivatives by ring enlargement of other selenium-containing heterocycles like selenadiazoles or selenazoles is described [11][12]. However, most of the papers showed the uses of the selenoureas [13], selenosemicarbazides [14][15] or phenyl acetylene selenide as intermediates [16].

As a part of our program aimed at the development of simple new procedures for the synthesis of selenium-containing heterocycles [17–24], we have recently reported on the utility of isoselenocyanates as building blocks for the synthesis of 1,3-selenazetidines [25], 1,3-selenazolidines and perhydro-1,3-selenazines [26], 2-methylidene-1,3-selenazolidine derivatives [27], and 1,3-selenazepanes [28]. As an extension of this work, we report here on a novel and efficient synthesis of 1,3,4-selenadiazines.

2. Results and Discussion. – The used isoselenocyanates **1a–1e** (see *Tab. 1*) have been prepared conveniently by a slightly modified procedure of *Barton et al.* [29] from the corresponding *N*-arylformamide by treatment with COCl_2 and elemental Se. Then, hydrazine hydrate was added to a mixture of equimolar amounts of **1** and a phenacyl halide

2 in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature. After stirring for 3–4 h, the reaction was complete (TLC) and the solvent was evaporated. The product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using a mixture of hexane and AcOEt (ratio from 1/0 to 1/1) and recrystallized from AcOEt. The IR-spectra (KBr) of the pale-yellow solids showed two characteristic strong absorptions at *ca.* 1590 and 1560 cm⁻¹ but no C=O absorption. The NMR-spectra revealed the presence of an NH (11.3–11.8 ppm) and a CH₂ group (3.8–3.95 (¹H) and *ca.* 15 ppm (¹³C)), and the CI-MS and elemental analyses were in accordance with the structure of a 3,6-dihydro-2-imino-2*H*-1,3,4-selenadiazine **3** or its 2-amino tautomer (*Scheme 1*). Finally, the structure of **3a** was established by X-ray crystallography (*Figure*).

Scheme 1

Figure. ORTEP Plot [30] of the molecular structure of **3a** (arbitrary numbering of the atoms, 50% probability ellipsoids)

In the heterocyclic ring, the unsubstituted C-atom is a CH₂ group, and only one ring N-atom carries an H-atom. The other one is involved in a C=N bond. The heterocyclic ring has a distorted boat conformation. The NH group forms an intermolecular H-bond with the exocyclic imine N-atom of a neighboring molecule. In turn, the acceptor molecule makes an identical H-bond to the original molecule so that pairs of molecules are linked into centrosymmetric dimeric units. The H-bonding can be described by a graph set motif [31] of R²₂(8).

The described one-pot reaction of **1**, **2**, and hydrazine led to the products **3a–3f** in 55–80% yield (*Table 1*). Several attempts have been made to carry out this three-component

reaction in two consecutive steps. The treatment of **1** with hydrazine hydrate, followed by the addition of a phenacyl halide **2**, did not yield the desired product, but the corresponding selenosemicarbazide was formed. On the other hand, the reaction of the hydrazone, which had been prepared from **2** and hydrazine, with **1** led quickly to decomposition products.

Table 1: *Preparation of Selenadiazines 3 from Isoselenocyanates 1*

Based on the results described, we propose the reaction mechanism shown in *Scheme 2* for the formation of **3**. We have already demonstrated that isoselenocyanates **1** and bifunctional nucleophiles of type **4**, bearing an electrophilic group, react to give 2-iminoselenaheterocycles **6**. A likely intermediate is the adduct **5**, which undergoes an *exo-trig* cyclization [32] to yield five to seven-membered selenaheterocycles [26–28] or heterocyclic selones [33][34]. In the present three-component reaction, the nucleophile (hydrazine) and the electrophile (**2**) are separated. Addition of hydrazine to **1** leads to the adduct **7**, which immediately reacts with the third component **2** to give **8**. Finally, an intramolecular condensation by elimination of H₂O, *i.e.*, the formation of a hydrazone, leads to the selenaheterocycles **3**.

Scheme 2

In conclusion, we have shown that the three-component reaction of isoselenocyanates **1**, phenacyl halides **2**, and hydrazine is a very convenient and useful procedure for the preparation of 1,3,4-selenadiazines **3**.

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Experimental Part

1. *General.* TLC: silica gel 60 F_{254} plates (0.25 mm; *Merck*). Column chromatography (CC): silica gel 60 (0.040-0.063 mm; *Merck*). M.p.: *Büchi B-540* apparatus, in capillaries; uncorrected. IR spectra: *Perkin-Elmer 1600-FT-IR* spectrometer, in KBr; absorptions in cm^{-1} . ^1H -NMR (300 MHz) and ^{13}C -NMR (75.5 MHz) spectra: *Bruker ARX-300* instrument, in $(\text{D}_6)\text{DMSO}$; chemical shifts in ppm, J in Hz; multiplicities of C-atoms from DEPT spectra. EI-MS and CI-MS: *Finnigan SSQ-700* or *MAT-90* instrument; EI mode: 70 eV; CI mode: NH_3 as carrier gas.

2. *Starting materials.* α -Halogeno acetophenones and hydrazine hydrate are commercially available (*Fluka*). Isoselenocyanates **1a–1e** were prepared according to a slightly modified procedure of *Barton et al.* [29] starting from a formamide. Formanilide is commercially available (*Fluka* and *Aldrich*). *N*-(4-Chlorophenyl)-, *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-, *N*-(4-methylphenyl)-, and *N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)formamide were prepared from the respective aniline and 95% formic acid. The soln. was heated to reflux for 30 min and evaporated to

dryness in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in Et₂O and washed with diluted AcOH (5%), H₂O and aq. NaHCO₃ (5%). The aq. layer was extracted with Et₂O, the combined org. extracts were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated. The crude products were purified by recrystallization from EtOH/H₂O.

3. *General Procedure for the Preparation of Selenadiazines 3a–3f*: A 25 ml round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and condenser was charged with a mixture of an isoselenocyanate (1.0 mmol) and a phenacyl halide (1.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml). Then, hydrazine hydrate (0.05 ml, 1.0 mmol) was added in one portion, the mixture was stirred for 3 to 4 h at r.t. and evaporated to dryness i.v. The crude product was purified by CC on silica gel with hexane/AcOEt (100/0 to 50/50) as eluant.

(Phenyl)(5-phenyl-3,6-dihydro-2H-[1,3,4]selenadiazin-2-yliden)amine (**3a**). Yield: 226.3 mg (72%). Yellowish crystals. M.p. 186–188° (AcOEt). IR: 3443*m* (br.), 3150*w*, 3060*w*, 3034*w*, 2921*m* (br.) 1621*m*, 1580*s*, 1556*vs*, 1494*m*, 1471*w*, 1404*w*, 1303*w*, 1251*w*, 1209*m*, 1172*w*, 1137*w*, 1112*w*, 1075*w*, 1004*w*, 899*w*, 845*w*, 798*w*, 766*w*, 753*m*, 687*m*, 632*m*. ¹H-NMR: 3.95 (*s*, CH₂); 6.95–7.25 (br. *m*, *t*-like at 7.12, *J* = 7.4, 3 arom. H); 7.37 (*t*-like, *J* = 7.7, 2 arom. H); 7.45–7.55 (*m*, 3 arom. H); 7.91 (*d*-like, *J* = 7.7, 2 arom. H); 11.28 (br. *s*, NH). ¹³C-NMR: 15.1 (*t*, CH₂); 123.1 (*d*, 1 arom. CH); 126.1 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 128.4 (*d*, 3 arom. CH); 128.5 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 129.2 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 135.4, 149.0, 155.2 (3*s*, 2 arom. C, C(5)); 163.5 (*s*, C(2)). CI-MS: 318 (19), 317 (17), 316 (100, [*M*(⁸⁰Se)+1]⁺), 315 (10), 314 (48), 313 (19), 312 (18), 239 (7), 238 (41, [*M*-Ph]⁺), 236 (20), 225 (7). Anal. calc. for C₁₅H₁₃N₃Se (314.25): C 57.33, H 4.17, N 13.37; found: C 57.34, H 4.03, N 13.09.

Crystals suitable for the X-ray crystal-structure determination were grown from CHCl₃/MeOH by slow evaporation of the solvent.

(4-Bromophenyl)(5-phenyl-3,6-dihydro-2H-[1,3,4]selenadiazin-2-yliden)amine (**3b**).

Yield: 267.3 mg (68%). Yellowish crystals. M.p. 179–181° (AcOEt). IR: 3443*m* (br.), 3133*w*, 3056*w*, 2917*m* (br), 1623*m*, 1587*vs*, 1567*s*, 1490*m*, 1472*m*, 1444*m*, 1403*m*, 1297*w*, 1276*w*, 1214*s*, 1173*m*, 1105*w*, 1072*m*, 1003*w*, 889*m*, 841*m*, 827*s*, 759*s*, 693*s*, 658*m*, 632*w*. ¹H-NMR: 3.93 (*s*, CH₂); 6.70–7.00 (br. *m*, 2 arom. H); 7.45–7.60 (*m*, 5 arom. H); 7.85–8.00 (*m*, 2 arom. H); 11.71 (br. *s*, NH). ¹³C-NMR: 15.3 (*t*, CH₂); 121.6 (*s*, 1 arom. C); 126.2 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 128.5 (*d*, 3 arom. CH); 129.3 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 131.3 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 135.3, 148.0, 154.3 (3*s*, 2 arom. C, C(5)); 166.2 (*s*, C(2)). CI-MS: 398 (13), 397 (14), 396 (77), 395 (21), 394 (100, [*M*(⁸⁰Se, ⁷⁹Br)+1]⁺), 393 (21), 392 (47), 391 (14), 390 (14). Anal. calc. for C₁₅H₁₂N₃SeBr (393.15): C 45.83, H 3.08, N 10.69; found: C 45.46, H 3.21, N 10.42.

(4-Chlorophenyl)(5-phenyl-3,6-dihydro-2H-[1,3,4]selenadiazin-2-yliden)amine (**3c**).

Yield: 191.8 mg (55%). Yellowish crystals. M.p. 178–180° (AcOEt). IR: 3444*m* (br.), 3125*w*, 3047*w*, 2908*m* (br.), 2866*m* (br.), 1623*m*, 1584*vs*, 1568*s*, 1491*s*, 1473*m*, 1444*w*, 1403*m*, 1297*w*, 1277*w*, 1214*s*, 1178*w*, 1172*m*, 1107*w*, 1093*m*, 1071*w*, 1003*w*, 888*m*, 843*w*, 830*m*, 796*w*, 760*m*, 694*m*, 683*w*, 662*w*. ¹H-NMR: 3.95 (*s*, CH₂); 6.80–7.05 (br. *m*, 2 arom. H); 7.45 (*d*-like, *J* = 8.4, 2 arom. H); 7.50–7.60 (*m*, 3 arom. H); 7.90–8.05 (*m*, 2 arom. H); 11.64 (br. *s*, NH). ¹³C-NMR: 15.3 (*t*, CH₂); 126.2 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 128.4 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 128.5 (*d*, 3 arom. CH); 129.3 (*s*, 2 arom. CH); 135.0, 135.3, 147.5, 155.3 (4*s*, 3 arom. C, C(5)); 163.9 (*s*, C(2)). CI-MS: 354 (6), 353 (8), 352 (44), 351 (18), 350 (100, [*M*(⁸⁰Se, ³⁵Cl)+1]⁺), 349 (15), 348 (48), 347 (17), 346 (17). Anal. calc. for C₁₅H₁₂N₃SeCl (348.69): C 51.67, H 3.47, N 12.05; found: C 51.51, H 3.74, N 11.73.

(4-Methoxyphenyl)(5-phenyl-3,6-dihydro-2H-[1,3,4]selenadiazin-2-yliden)amine

(**3d**). Yield: 229.3 mg (67%). Yellowish crystals. M.p. 132–134° (AcOEt). IR: 3439*m* (br.), 3346*m*, 2912*m* (br.), 2836*w*, 1654*s*, 1638*m*, 1580*vs*, 1544*s*, 1509*vs*, 1447*w*, 1282*m*, 1249*s*,

1211w, 1178w, 1109w, 1077w, 1033w, 1011w, 892w, 826m, 800w, 757w, 713m, 692w. ^1H -NMR: 3.82 (*s*, MeO); 3.90 (*s*, CH_2); 6.90–7.20 (br. *m*, *d*-like at 6.92, $J = 8.2$, 4 arom. H); 7.30–7.55 (*m*, 2 arom. H); 7.75–8.00 (*m*, 2 arom. H); 11.82 (br. *s*, NH). ^{13}C -NMR: 15.1 (*t*, CH_2); 55.4 (*q*, MeO); 115.6 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 124.2 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 128.3 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 129.2 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 131.1 (*d*, 1 arom. CH); 133.9, 147.8, 153.7, 158.4 (4*s*, 3 arom. C, C(5)); 166.1 (*s*, C(2)). CI-MS: 350 (8), 349 (12), 348 (65), 347 (21), 346 (100, $[\text{M}(^{80}\text{Se})+1]^+$), 345 (19), 344 (52), 343 (15), 342 (14). Anal. calc. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{OSe}$ (344.28): C 55.82, H 4.39, N 12.21; found: C 55.95, H 4.67, N 12.23.

(4-Bromophenyl)[5-(4-bromophenyl)-3,6-dihydro-2H-[1,3,4]selenadiazin-2-yliden]amine (**3e**). Yield: 377.6 mg (80%). Yellowish crystals. M.p. 176–178° (AcOEt). IR: 3442*m* (br.), 3155w, 3051w, 2920*m* (br.), 1626*m*, 1590vs, 1576*s*, 1554*m*, 1485*m*, 1407w, 1299w, 1271w, 1209*m*, 1172*m*, 1146w, 1101w, 1070*m*, 1000*m*, 890w, 828*m*, 725w, 707w, 653w, 604w. ^1H -NMR: 3.88 (*s*, CH_2); 6.85–7.10 (br. *m*, 2 arom. H); 7.68 (*d*-like, $J = 8.2$, 2 arom. H); 7.80 (*d*-like, $J = 8.2$, 2 arom. H); 7.90–8.00 (*m*, 2 arom. H); 11.79 (br. *s*, NH). ^{13}C -NMR: 15.0 (*t*, CH_2); 122.8 (*s*, 2 arom. C); 124.2 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 128.1 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 131.3 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 131.5 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 134.5, 147.2, 155.5 (3*s*, 2 arom. C, C(5)); 162.9 (*s*, C(2)). CI-MS: 478 (7), 477 (9), 476 (52), 475 (19), 474 (100, $[\text{M}(^{80}\text{Se}, ^{81}\text{Br}, ^{79}\text{Br})+1]^+$), 473 (23), 472 (85, $[\text{M}(^{80}\text{Se}, ^{79}\text{Br}, ^{79}\text{Br})+1]^+$), 471 (19), 470 (35), 469 (8), 468 (9). Anal. calc. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3\text{SeBr}_2$ (472.05): C 38.17, H 2.35, N 8.90; found: C 38.01, H 2.54, N 8.60.

[5-(4-Bromophenyl)-3,6-dihydro-2H-[1,3,4]selenadiazin-2-ylidene](4-methylphenyl)amine (**3f**). Yield: 317.5 mg (78%). Yellowish crystals. M.p. 202–204° (AcOEt). IR: 3441*m* (br.), 2919*m*, 2853*m* (br.), 1623*m*, 1583vs, 1554*m*, 1508w, 1486w, 1406w, 1269w, 1221*m*, 1173*m*, 1075*m*, 999w, 890w, 826*m*. ^1H -NMR: 2.40 (*s*, Me); 3.93 (*s*,

CH₂); 6.90–7.20 (*m*, 2 arom. H); 7.24 (*d*-like, *J* = 8.1, 2 arom. H); 7.52 (*d*-like, *J* = 8.1, 2 arom. H); 7.66 (*d*-like, *J* = 8.1, 2 arom. H); 11.50 (br. *s*, NH). ¹³C-NMR: 14.8 (*t*, CH₂); 20.3 (*q*, Me); 121.6 (*s*, 1 arom. C); 122.6 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 128.0 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 129.0 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 131.4 (*d*, 2 arom. CH); 134.7, 145.6, 155.0 (3*s*, 3 arom. C, C(5)); 163.2 (C(2)). CI-MS: 412 (13), 411 (15), 410 (77), 409 (33), 408 (100, [M(⁸⁰Se,⁷⁹Br)+1]⁺), 407 (40), 406 (50), 405 (23), 404 (17). Anal. calc. for C₁₆H₁₄N₃SeBr (407.07): C 47.20, H 3.47, N 10.32; found: C 46.72, H 3.51, N 10.15.

X-Ray Crystal-Structure Determination of 3a (see *Table* and *Figure*)³. All measurements were made on a *Nonius KappaCCD* diffractometer [35] using graphite-monochromated MoK_α radiation (λ 0.71073 Å) and an *Oxford Cryosystems Cryostream 700* cooler. Data reduction was performed with *HKL Denzo* and *Scalepack* [36]. The intensities were corrected for *Lorentz* and polarization effects, and an absorption correction based on the multi-scan method [37] was applied. Equivalent reflections were merged. Data collection and refinement parameters are given in the *Table*, and a view of the molecule is shown in the *Figure*. The structure was solved by direct methods using SIR92 [38], which revealed the positions of all non-H-atoms. The non-H-atoms were refined anisotropically. The amine H-atom was placed in the position indicated by a difference electron density map and its position was allowed to refine together with an isotropic displacement parameter. All of the remaining H-atoms were placed in geometrically calculated positions and refined using a riding model where each H-atom was assigned a fixed isotropic

³) CCDC-601303 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from the *Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre* via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

displacement parameter with a value equal to $1.2U_{eq}$ of its parent C-atom. Refinement of the structure was carried out on F^2 using full-matrix least-squares procedures, which minimized the function $\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2$. A correction for secondary extinction was applied. One reflection, whose intensity was considered to be an extreme outlier, was omitted from the final refinement. Neutral atom scattering factors for non-H-atoms were taken from [39a], and the scattering factors for H-atoms were taken from [40]. Anomalous dispersion effects were included in F_c [41]; the values for f' and f'' were those of [39b]. The values of the mass attenuation coefficients are those of [39c]. All calculations were performed using the SHELXL97 [42] program.

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Table 1. *Preparation of Selenadiazines 3 from Isoselenocyanates 1*

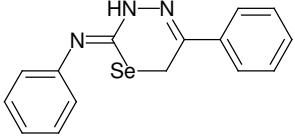
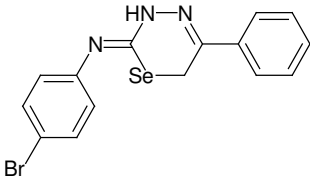
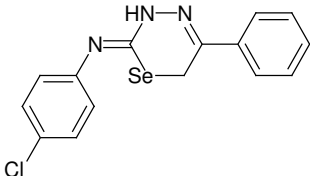
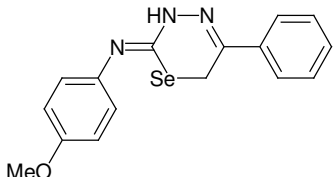
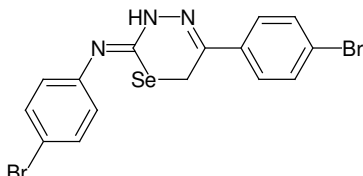
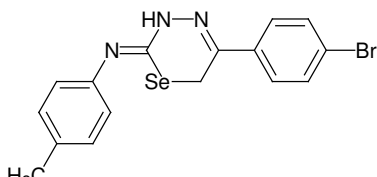
| Entry | 1 | R ¹ | 2 | R ² | Selenadiazines 3 | Yield (%) |
|-------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1 | a | Ph | a | Ph | a  | 72 |
| 2 | b | 4-BrC ₆ H ₄ | a | Ph | b  | 68 |
| 3 | c | 4-ClC ₆ H ₄ | a | Ph | c  | 55 |
| 4 | d | 4-MeOC ₆ H ₄ | a | Ph | d  | 67 |
| 5 | b | 4-BrC ₆ H ₄ | b | 4-BrC ₆ H ₄ | e  | 80 |
| 6 | e | 4-MeC ₆ H ₄ | b | 4-BrC ₆ H ₄ | f  | 78 |

Table 2. *Crystallographic Data of Compound 3a*

| | |
|--|---|
| Crystallized from | CHCl ₃ /MeOH |
| Empirical formula | C ₁₅ H ₁₃ N ₃ Se |
| Formula weight [g mol ⁻¹] | 314.19 |
| Crystal color, habit | pale-yellow, prism |
| Crystal dimensions [mm] | 0.18 × 0.23 × 0.28 |
| Temperature [K] | 160(1) |
| Crystal system | monoclinic |
| Space group | <i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>n</i> |
| <i>Z</i> | 4 |
| Reflections for cell determination | 27519 |
| 2 θ range for cell determination [°] | 4–60 |
| Unit cell parameters | |
| <i>a</i> [Å] | 10.5899(2) |
| <i>b</i> [Å] | 8.7839(1) |
| <i>c</i> [Å] | 15.2309(3) |
| β [°] | 110.2058(9) |
| <i>V</i> [Å ³] | 1329.60(4) |
| <i>D_x</i> [g cm ⁻³] | 1.569 |
| μ (MoK α) [mm ⁻¹] | 2.811 |
| Scan type | ϕ and ω |
| 2 $\theta_{\text{(max)}}$ [°] | 60 |
| Transmission factors (min; max) | 0.510; 0.623 |
| Total reflections measured | 37327 |
| Symmetry independent reflections | 3883 |
| Reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ | 3316 |
| Reflections used in refinement | 3882 |
| Parameters refined | 177 |
| Final $R(F)$ [$I > 2\sigma(I)$ reflections] | 0.0297 |
| $wR(F^2)$ (all data) | 0.0750 |
| Weights: $w = [\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0359P)^2 + 0.9122P]^{-1}$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ | |
| Goodness of fit | 1.033 |
| Secondary extinction coefficient | 0.0036(8) |
| Final $\Delta_{\text{max}}/\sigma$ | 0.002 |
| $\Delta\rho$ (max; min) [e Å ⁻³] | 0.64; -0.50 |